

Online Safety Newsletter

July 2025



Protecting Your Child's Privacy Online

Understanding how to protect your child's privacy online is essential. Every time personal information is shared online, it adds to their digital footprint. That's why it's important to stay in control of who sees what. Privacy settings are features found on most social media platforms, websites, and games. They let users decide who can see what they post and share online.

Have Regular Conversations - Talk openly with your child about what personal information is and why it should be protected. This includes: their full name, address, school and current location. Also remind them that photos and videos can reveal personal information—like where they are or what school they attend.

Use Privacy Settings Wisely - For every app, game, or device your child uses, review and adjust the privacy settings. Some things to check include: Is location sharing turned off? Who can tag them in posts? Who can see and share their content?

Revisit these settings often, as updates or new features can reset or change them.

Be a Role Model - Children learn by example. Think about what you post—are you sharing photos of your child in school uniform or tagging locations?

Teach Password Safety - Help your child create strong, complex passwords and stress the importance of keeping them private.

Google Their Name - Search your child's name online together to see what information is publicly visible. If they see something they're uncomfortable with, let them know they can remove or update it.

For more information please visit

 <https://www.unicef.org/parenting/child-care/online-privacy>

Navigating the Online World

The online world can be challenging, and it's natural for mistakes to happen. When they do, it's important for parents to be prepared to support their children.

Stay Calm - If your child comes to you about something they did wrong online, try to remain calm and listen without judgment.

Be Honest - You might not have all the answers right away—and that's okay. Let your child know that you're there to help figure things out together.

Work Together - Tackle the issue as a team. This not only helps resolve the problem but also teaches your child important lessons about digital responsibility and online safety. Use the opportunity to check or set up parental controls where needed.

If you feel you need extra help, there are organisations that offer guidance. Parent Zone provides a list of helpful resources:

 <https://www.brightcanary.io/what-to-do-when-your-child-sends-inappropriate-things/> and <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/help-and-support>